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subject was aroused by frequent and intimate relations with the native tribesmen, among whom the memories of fighting days were still most vivid. The material which he thus gathered locally from word of mouth he supplemented from official and other written authorities, and has given us here a carefully documented but most readable account of that long strife between the various Caucasian tribes and the "imperial" Russia.

The writer is quite frank in condemning many of the measures adopted by Russia in this work of conquest. But he is fair to both sides and does not hesitate to point out that Russia had to deal with a people who also showed no mercy and gave no quarter.

The character of that extraordinary man Shamil is carefully and minutely studied. A drawing of Shamil is the frontispiece of the book. It was because of his remarkable energy and his clever ability that Muridism became so important an element in the history of the Caucasus. It took years to shake the invincible belief in Shamil's power. He was "fired by religious enthusiasm and the love of liberty, or, as the Russians have it, by fanaticism and license." But conditions were all against him—the strength of his adversary, the partisan dissensions among the various tribes made his ambition unrealizable; and, as the author states, it was essential to the security of the people of the Caucasus that Russian authority be established there.

Since 1859, the date at which the conquest was complete and with which this book ends its narrative, the Caucasus has become rapidly Russianized, but the former spirit still prevails, and the former race antagonisms. In the recent political movement these "traditions" reappeared, and the Caucasus became, as of old, the scene of dramatic but tragic events, and again one traveled at one's risk and preferably under escort.

The Russian system of colonization, made possible by the existence of a farmer-soldier class—the Cossacks—is particularly exemplified in the history of the Caucasus—the plough accompanied the sword. Cossack stations formed the so-called "line" which was gradually pushed forward. When not fighting, these Cossacks devoted themselves to cultivating the soil. All the details of this effective method of colonization are worked out by the author.

Though dealing to a large extent with military operations, the book gives much space to a general description of the Caucasus, and its inhabitants, and to the social, political and economic problems involved in its conquest. It is therefore a book that should appeal to a general reading public and not merely to those interested in military affairs.

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Beaulieu, Paul Leroy. Collectivism. Pp. xi, 343. Price, \$3.00. New York: E. P. Dutton & Co., 1908.

This abridged translation of Leroy Beaulieu's book on "Collectivism," by Arthur Clay, contains much useful material. There is scarcely an argument

for or against socialism that is not at least mentioned, and the case for capitalism is presented with enthusiasm, and in some respects with skill, though a greater readiness to admit its defects would strengthen the author's argument.

The first division of the book is an argument against land nationalization, which Leroy Beaulieu regards as mere limited collectivism. The second section is a hostile criticism of the theories of Lasalle and Marx, and of the scheme of socialistic organization outlined in Schaeffle's "Quintessence of Socialism." Such criticism, in view of the progress of economic theory, is an easy task, though perhaps even yet a necessary one. It is not necessary, however, to paint the highly colored picture of socialist tyranny that M. Leroy Beaulieu's imagination conjures up. Notwithstanding this exaggeration, most of the stock criticisms of collectivism are presented with force and point.

The third part of the work, in which the present position of socialist doctrine and policy is taken up, is the most useful division of the book. The outlines of the Bernstein controversy and of the revisionist discussion in France are well presented, and the opinions of important representatives of contemporary socialism are fairly set down. In his anxiety to demonstrate the essential similarity of the purposes of these writers, the author appears to us to have minimized perhaps unduly their differences. None the less, he gives a good idea of the present divergent state of socialist opinion.

The distinguished name of Leroy Beaulieu, so well known as a stout defender of the existing order, will attract many readers to this book who have never seen it in the original. While it is not a profound or sympathetic presentation of its subject, it is nevertheless a virile, well written criticism, and one adapted to set to thinking any who would thoughtlessly abandon the advantages of our present form of economic organization.

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Brückner, A. *A Literary History of Russia.* Translated by H. Havelock.

Pp. xi, 588. Price, \$4.00. New York: Scribner's Sons, 1908.

Professor Brückner's original work in German has been and still is the authoritative book of Western Europe on Russian literature as a whole. His work is now made more accessible to the English-speaking public by this carefully prepared translation.

The editor of this English edition very justly notes in his introduction that as a Pole, Mr. Brückner has found it difficult to be quite fair to old Russia with which old Poland was in constant conflict. Thus he passes over the early period of Russian literature rapidly. The general reader is less interested in this period however, and it is the treatment of the later periods that forms the principal part of the work.

Russian literature more than any other has reflected economic, social and political conditions. The reaction of politics particularly upon letters is admirably traced by the author. The social purpose of literature in Russia